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CHUNCHON IN INCREDIBLE RUIN

Vital Junction Town Occupied By U.N. Forces

Devastation On A Scale Unequalled In Korea

Tokyo, Mar. 21.

Chunchon, the city south of the 38th Parallel most vital to its defence, may safely be regarded as fallen to the United Nations forces, as the result of the abandonment of the city by Chinese Communists without offering a fight.

COMMENT

With little in the Budget for Unofficial Members of Legislative Council to seize upon for serious attack, it is not surprising that yesterday's debate on the Colony's finances and the outlook was chiefly noteworthy for sound constructive criticism directed more towards Government policies, with their bearing on the welfare of the mass of the population, than against individual items in Estimates.

Endorsement must, for instance, be immediate of Mr Terry's contention that the Government has been too complaisant in survey of the rising levels of commodity prices. In general, when an attempt at control has been instituted, it has lagged too far behind the need, or, alternatively, has been applied without full consideration of pros and cons.

The plea for stronger and more determined measures to curb manipulators who unwarrantably increase the cost of necessities needs no emphasis. Nor does Mr Terry's further attractive recommendation that a trial be made closely associating the resources of the Equalisation Fund with "planned losses." The belief that discreet "loss" operations could compel cuts in the competitive field and add up to a general gain is backed by sound knowledge of market sensitivity.

Mr Cassidy's expression of amazement at the moderation and patience of the local trading community in the face of the inclusion, without prior warning, of Hongkong in the American sanctions zone, too, will be widely shared. Some modification has been enticed out of the American authorities but more stubbornness than understanding still dominates the situation, and when local industry faces severe Japanese competition, American sponsored, Washington refusal to release raw materials needed to keep our machines turning, the views of local industrialists are naturally dim. Apart from this, as Mr Cassidy insisted, the Colony's free trade status must itself be jeopardised if Government leans over backwards to satisfy American conditions. Make haste slowly must be today's dictum.

WAR OFFICE TOUCHY ON FARGIE

(Our Own Correspondent)

London, Mar. 21.

The War Office is very touchy about the case of Driver Robert Fargie, who was released from prison in Japan last week and is now in Hongkong where, reports say, he is held up awaiting permission to proceed on his way home.

I asked the War Office today whether it was their responsibility to give the word that would send Fargie on the next stage of his journey home.

"We don't know where Fargie is at the moment," the spokesman said.

It took me a moment or two to get over the surprise of learning that the War Office are the only people in London who didn't know that Fargie was in Hongkong. I asked about that.

"We have an idea that he is in Hongkong," the spokesman confessed. "We're completely in the air."

It seems that authority for Fargie to continue on his journey home must come from the GOC, Far East, whose headquarters are in Singapore, and not from the War Office. Next stop on Fargie's flight home is Singapore.

I asked what would happen to him after he got home. "He will go on leave," said the spokesman. "There's no question of sacking him as one newspaper has suggested. After he returns from leave he will probably be posted to another branch of his Corps. We don't know—it's rather an unusual case."

Dutch Planters Murdered

Djakarta, Mar. 21.

Terrorists killed two Dutch planters in West Java on Monday but allowed their wives to go free, the Aneta news agency reported today.

They forced the two planters to leave their car and follow them to their "headquarters." The women, left behind unharmed, escaped from the car. Indonesian Army patrols later found one planter dead. The other, who was wounded, died shortly after. —Reuter.

The key junction town is only nine miles south of the 38th Parallel in the centre, and although under continuous bombardments it had already ceased to exist as a city, its capture represents an important strategic gain.

Allied patrols and tanks today probed into this main Chinese Communist base in South Korea, and were quickly followed up.

John Colless, Reuter's correspondent cabled that Chunchon had ceased to exist. "Once it was the main city of the central borderland, prosperous and heavily populated. Now, acres of it had been transformed into an expanse of rubble earth and an infinite number of fragments of iron timber and steel-pitted bomb-craters."

"What was once a large factory is now five white chimneys rising from the bare ground. A reinforced concrete wall of a three-storey building hangs over a heap of ruins like an old moth-eaten tablecloth. Not one building is left standing along the main street, where the bedraggled poplars are the only traces of what was once a wide tree-lined avenue."

NO SMOKING!

Incongruous notes were a sign planted on a battered steel cabinet among the ruins of a garage reading: "No smoking," and a wooden belfry tower standing alongside a heap of bricks that was once a church. The devastation of Chunchon had not been equalled in Korea. "It is a tribute to the grim destructive power of United Nations bombing."

"And yet, out of the incredible ruins of the city, small groups of Korean civilians, mostly women, children and old men, managed to welcome our tanks as they rolled cautiously through the smoking, cratered street littered with tangled cable lines

The Same Old Allegation

San Francisco, Mar. 21.

Peking Radio tonight alleged that the authorities in Hongkong "continued to suppress" Chinese educational institutions.

This followed the "forcible closing down" of two establishments, one of them "on the pretext of violating the educational ordinance," the broadcast said.

The Radio also reported the lodging in Canton of a vigorous protest against "British persecution of overseas Chinese in Malaya," by Chen Chi-yu, Chairman of the Party of Overseas Chinese.

The protest alleged that there had been an intensification of the "persecution" during which many people had been thrown into "concentration camps." —Reuter.

SHOCKING CONVENT TRAGEDY

Milan, March 21.

Thirteen girls aged three to eleven were killed and 28 others including one mother gravely injured when a courtyard wall of the school of the Sisters of Mercy collapsed here at the lunch recess today.

The victims had just been dismissed after the morning session and were taking shelter against the wall from violent gusts of wind, when it toppled on them.

Rescuers pulled 20 girls from the debris alive, 17 of whom were badly injured.

Mothers and other members of the children's families were horrified eye-witnesses to the tragedy. They were waiting for the children at the school gate. Some mothers were able to snatch their daughters a split second before the wall crashed.

The brick wall was rebuilt only two months ago after it collapsed previously. —United Press.

and shattered fragments of the city's buildings.

"They waved Republican flags which were noticeably old and looked as if they had been kept in hiding during the Communist occupation."

WAY STRAFED AHEAD

On their approach to the city the Allied tanks moved in an apparently leisurely pace along the main highway, preceded by engineers on foot and under a flight of jet aircraft which

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 4)

BETTER
GET
A
JERBY
EARLY

FROM MACKINTOSH'S



This group of children in an elementary school on Long Island, New York, heard of the desperate plight of children in Korea and decided to collect clothing for the war orphans. Their gifts have been distributed in South Korea. — Unations Photo.

Master Lock Of Museum Stolen

London, Mar. 21. — Someone has stolen a master lock of the British Museum in Central London, possession of which would give access to priceless national treasures, it was revealed here today.

Officials, fearing a planned raid on the Museum, immediately ordered all exterior locks in the building to be changed.

Anyone possessing the master lock could make a key from its impression, to open the other outer doors. A new set of outside locks and keys will cost £500.

It would be almost impossible to work out the total value of the contents of the Museum for most of the items are priceless and irreplaceable.

Only one robbery has recorded at the Museum in its 200-year history. Two 1,600-year-old coffins and some burial relics were stolen from the Roman Collection last November. — Reuter.

Film Star Admits He Was Once A Red

Washington, Mar. 21.

The movie star Larry Parks admitted to Congressional investigators today that he was a member of the Communist Party from 1941 to 1945 and he said he expected the admission to end his Hollywood career.

Parks was the first witness in the reopening of the Hollywood investigation by the House Un-American Activities Committee. The star of "The Jolson Story" and one of Hollywood's leading young actors traced for the Committee his membership in the Communist Party from 1941 to part of 1945.

He told the Committee he attended "very few" Communist meetings and drifted out of the Party "the same way I drifted in". He added that there was a "great difference" between belonging to the Party when he did and belonging to it now.

"I feel I have done nothing wrong." Then with a voice scarcely audible a few feet away, he said: "If you think it is easy for a man who has climbed up the ladder a bit, if you think it is easy to appear before this Committee and testify, you're mistaken.... As an actor my activity is dependent a great deal on the public.... It is doubtful whether my career can continue, extremely doubtful, because I came here and told you the truth."

Parks thus became the first Hollywood figure to admit openly that he had been a member of the Communist Party. Ten Hollywood figures who refused to answer the questions of the Committee in 1947 were convicted of contempt of Congress and sent to jail.

VERY CO-OPERATIVE

Parks admitted there were Communists in the actors' laboratory—school and "show-case" for actors—and he was a member of the group with the duty of signing cheques. He said he left the Communist Party in 1944 or 1945 and had had no connections with it since 1946.

Parks, who at first pleaded with investigators not to force him to "crawl through the mud and to be an informer" on other film figures, later went behind closed doors to give the names of "four or five" Communists he had known. Members said afterwards that he was "very co-operative" and they were not considering contempt action against him. — United Press.

UNDER STUDY

Washington, Mar. 21. — The US Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, said today that the possibility of including Turkey and Greece in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation was under constant study.

He told a questioner at his weekly press conference that there had been no new development to report on the subject. — Reuter.

BRITAIN STUDIES WAY TO PROTECT OIL INTERESTS

Mr Morrison Taking Serious View Of Persian Threat

London, Mar. 21.

Britain is considering various ways of protecting the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, which the Persian Parliament is threatening to nationalise, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Herbert Morrison, told the House of Commons today.

He was asked for an assurance that he would not allow "a valuable undertaking of such great international importance to go up in smoke because of an emotional landslide in Teheran."

Mr Morrison replied: "My own feelings about the matter are much the same. I am taking the matter very seriously indeed."

Mr Morrison said also that the Government had received no representation from the Persian Government about the nationalisation of the company's wells and refineries.

Persia had not yet replied to the British note of March 14 (contending that the nationalisation of the company would be illegal).

Replying to a suggestion that, in view of the strategic importance of the Persian oil supplies, Britain should offer a military alliance to Persia as a deterrent to any potential aggressor, Mr Morrison said that the British policy was to encourage an independent, stable and prosperous Persia.

INTEGRITY AND SECURITY

"On May 19 last my predecessor (Mr Ernest Bevin) issued a statement saying that the British Government was vitally concerned in the independence, integrity and security of Persia and were determined to continue their policy to Persia and to other countries striving through military and economic measures to safeguard their independence and territorial integrity."

"I welcome this opportunity to reaffirm that that statement still represents the policy of the British Government and no further assurance is necessary, but unfortunately at present the Persians are not giving us very much encouragement."

U.N. APPROACH?

Lord Henderson, Joint Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, replying to questions in the House of Lords, rejected a suggestion that the dispute should be submitted to the United Nations.

He said that this would not be appropriate as things stood. "We must await developments before deciding our course of action," he said.

The Government, he said, was confident that the Persian Government did not contemplate using force.

Lord Simon, Liberal, said that when the Persian Government proposed in 1932 to cancel a concession to the Anglo-Persian Company without agreement, the matter was brought before the Council of the League of Nations.

Lord Henderson replied that this parallel was being studied. — Reuter.

British Stewards Arrested

Cairo, Mar. 21.

Two British stewards on a plane were arrested at Cairo's Farouk Airport early today on a gold smuggling charge, the Egyptian police stated tonight. The police said that the stewards were found hiding about 25 pounds weight of gold in blocks. The gold was confiscated by Customs officers. The stewards were on a plane bound for Bombay from London. — Reuter.

Britain's Korea Casualties

London, Mar. 21.

It was announced today that Britain has suffered 980 casualties in the Korean war.

The Defence Minister Mr Shinwell told the Commons that 20 persons were killed, 65 wounded and three missing since February 20. The total then was 392. — United Press.

Peking Turns Out Lethal Weapons

Korea, Mar. 21.

Chinese Communist munitions factories are producing almost exact copies of some of the world's most efficient automatic weapons, including Bren guns, Thompson sub-machine-guns and American Mark-III 45-calibre sub-machineguns commonly known as "grease guns."

South Korean troops who recently surprised and wiped out a Chinese Communist battalion near Hongchon captured a haul of replicas.

An American ordnance officer who inspected the arms today said that they were almost perfect copies and would be nearly as efficient as their originals. He said: "They have been turned out in the last year or so and would say that the Chinese have chosen just about the most lethal set of weapons to copy."

With the machineguns the South Koreans also found several boxes of Chinese-made bullets. Up until now the Chinese troops have used foreign ammunition almost exclusively. — Reuter.

AIR RAIDS IN TONKIN

Saigon, Mar. 21.

French planes dive-bombed and strafed concentrations of Vietminh forces 45 miles north of Hanoi today, a French Army communique announced.

Targets were cantonments near Thai-Nguyen, the Vietminh military capital.

Reporting on operations in Cochinchina, the communique said that French troops now occupied the whole of Oil Island, 60 miles south of Saigon.

In operations throughout Indo-China in the past 24 hours, French Union troops killed 74 Vietminhs and captured 62, the communique added. — Reuter.

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CHARLES COBURN • RUTH HUSSEY

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Supported by a Play by Carson Robinson • Written for the Screen by Arthur Sheekman

Music by Johnny Burke • Lyrics by James Van Heusen • A Paramount Picture



Also: Latest Paramount Newsreel

"COMPLETELY INCONCLUSIVE"

Fifteenth Session Of Big Four Deputies Makes No Headway

Gromyko Monopolises Talks With Same Propaganda

Paris, Mar. 21.

The "Big Four" Foreign Ministers' deputies failed again to go forward with their efforts to draft an agenda for a Foreign Ministers' conference.

There was no progress at today's fifteenth meeting nor were any new proposals or amendments tabled, a British spokesman said.

Mr Andrei Gromyko (Russia) set a new conference record by speaking for two hours and 10 minutes including translation time.

Mr Gromyko challenged the Western contention that acceptance of the Soviet proposals on German demilitarisation and reduction of armaments would mean taking decisions on the substance of these questions.

Such suggestions were being used simply to mislead public opinion, he contended.

M. Alexandre Parodi (France) said that yesterday's Soviet re-draft of the third item of their agenda was in parts similar to the Western proposal and asked for Soviet reply to the following points:

(1) Did the Soviet delegation still insist on their first item dealing with the Potsdam Agreement and on this being treated separately?

(2) Why was the general level of armaments still ignored in the Soviet agenda? It was inconsistent to talk of the reduction of armaments without referring to the level of armaments. It was like trying to do a subtraction exercise in arithmetic without mentioning the first figure of the sum. He took it that the Soviet Union was still insisting that reduction of armaments should be confined to the "Big Four."

(3) What agreements did the Soviet Government have in mind when they talked of the fulfilment of treaty obligations?

AS FAR APART

Mr Ernest Davies (Britain) said that the deputies were still as far apart as they had been at the start of the conference.

He said that a first study of yesterday's Soviet proposal did not lead him to believe that it would serve as a basis for agreement between them. His preliminary view was that the Soviet re-draft, which made "unessential concessions," did not make any material change.

The Western deputies had tried to make it clear beyond all doubt that the question of the existing level of armaments was an essential point, Mr Davies said. He found it impossible to believe that Mr Gromyko really thought he had tried to meet the Western Powers' objections.

The British deputy also stressed the impossibility of discussing a reduction of armaments without taking into account their existing level.

GROMYKO CHALLENGE

Mr Gromyko challenged the remark made by Dr Philip Jessup (America) that adoption of the Soviet agenda would amount to an intermediary agreement in which the policies of the Western Powers would be condemned. It was nothing of the kind, Mr Gromyko said. The Soviet agenda was aimed at the fulfilment of the Potsdam

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Owing to the Easter holidays, there will be no issue of the "Hongkong Telegraph" tomorrow or on Monday.

The "China Mail" will appear as usual on Saturday and Monday.

Agreement and the reduction of the armed forces of the four Powers.

Dr Jessup's allegations were mere speculation "at odds with the truth."

The Western Powers need not look for more nor less in the Soviet agenda, Mr Gromyko continued. Dr Jessup wished to complicate matters by introducing his interpretations. The Soviet delegation had now included all the main Western proposals in its agenda.

The Soviet Government had pointed out in a note to Britain that its armed forces were now what they were in 1939 whereas the West had 5,000,000 men under arms and was still further increasing its armed forces.

SOVIET ARGUMENT

Mr Gromyko claimed that the Western deputies were objecting to the Russian proposals on the reduction of armaments because they had "quite different plans for Germany". Everyone knew that peace in Europe depended on a reduction of the armed forces of the four Big Powers.

Mr Gromyko again insisted that the Russian draft item on the Potsdam Agreement and the demilitarisation of Germany should appear as a separate item.

A Western spokesman said that this was the "worst meeting yet".

Mr Gromyko did not add a single new argument to what he had said yesterday this spokesman added.

The deputies are meeting again tomorrow and on Saturday and will then adjourn until Tuesday, according to usually reliable sources.—Reuter.

Typhoon Hits Marshalls

Honolulu, Mar. 21.

A typhoon with winds of 115 miles an hour slashed today through the southeastern fringe of the Marshall Islands where a major atomic test programme is underway at Eniwetok. First reports placed the storm 650 to 700 miles southwest of Eniwetok and said it was moving in the direction of the atomic proving grounds.—United Press.

Young Korean General's Peace Recipe

Korea, Mar. 21.

Brigadier General Chang Do Yung, whose South Korean 6th Division soldiers have spear-headed the United Nations advance on the central front, said today that there was no hope of peace in Korea until the United Nations forces occupied all North Korea.

General Chang, Japanese-trained and at 28, the youngest general in the South Korean Army said: "We would fight on until we come to the Yalu River. Speaking as Mr Chang and not as a general, I say that there will be no peace until Korea comes under one government." General Chang said that from his study of the Chinese Communist withdrawal and questioning of prisoners he was sure that the Chinese Communists would soon launch a major counter-offensive.

"I have fought the Chinese for so many years during the last war that I know their ways. They will soon stop their withdrawal and will attack us very heavily, but I believe we can stop them. My men have found that the most effective way to deal with the Chinese is to attack them with bayonets. Their tactics of night attacks and hiding in deep fox-holes makes it very hard to hold them in check with small-arms and artillery."—Reuter.

Dewey Refuses To Testify In Senate

Albany, N.Y., Mar. 21.

The Governor of New York, Mr Thomas Dewey, who rode to fame as a hard-hitting special investigator who cleaned out New York City's rackets, today refused to testify before the Senate Crime Committee.

Mr Dewey, who was twice defeated as the Republican presidential candidate, said he was surprised that the Committee chairman, Senator Estes Kefauver (Democrat, Tennessee), wanted him to testify on the gambling in Saratoga.

He also said, in a telegram to Senator Kefauver, that he was surprised that Mr Kefauver had used his (Dewey's) first refusal to appear at a public hearing in New York as an "excuse" this morning for discourteous personal remarks.

At this morning's session of the Committee in New York, Senator Kefauver said Mr Dewey was "leaving things up in the air." He referred to the gambling in Saratoga Springs

and questions about why Mr Dewey pardoned the vice and crime king, Charles "Lucky" Luciano and deported him to Italy.

Senator Kefauver said the Committee had never "ordered" the Governor to appear but the Committee would welcome his testimony. Mr Dewey said in his telegram: "When I received your invitation I believed you wished my opinion concerning organised crime, since I spent many years of my life successfully putting top gangsters, racketeers and corrupt officials in gaol." He added that, however, all Mr Kefauver apparently was interested in was the gambling conducted in the city of Saratoga.—United Press.

La Prensa Chief Stopped

Buenos Aires, Mar. 21.

Dr Alberto Gainza Paz, 50-year-old publisher of the independent newspaper, La Prensa, which was seized by the Argentine Government last night, was prevented from boarding a plane for Montevideo today.—Reuter.

GENERAL ELECTION VISUALISED

London, Mar. 21.

Socialists are warned of the possibility of an early general election in the annual report of the London Labour Party, issued today.

The Executive Committee of which the Foreign Secretary, Mr Herbert Morrison, the chief Labour strategist, is a member—in a resolution for the annual Conference on March 31, states:

"This conference reminds the whole Labour movement of London that, apart from the possibility of an early Parliamentary general election, the triennial election for the London County Council and the Middlesex County Council will occur in a year's time."

Urging systematic preparations for these local elections, the resolution says that socialism's opponents will make immense efforts to end Labour's rule on the London County Council (now held by a Labour majority) and to perpetuate Conservative domination over Middlesex.

The annual report, which is signed by Mr Morrison, says: "Whether or not a Parliamentary election has taken place before the London County Council elections, it is beyond question that the next contest for control of the Council will be one of the most bitterly fought in the history of the County of London."—Reuter.

UN Delegate's Trip

London, Mar. 21.

Sir Terence Shone, United Kingdom alternate delegate to the United Nations Security Council, is to visit Australia and New Zealand on a health trip.

Sir Terence, a former High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in India, was given a year's leave from diplomatic work last summer on account of ill-health.

He is at present in Colombo and will board the Orion when she calls there on Apr. 7.—Reuter.

Queens

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"SUMMER STOCK"

Extension Of Pact Group's Scope Urged

London, Mar. 21.

Mr Anthony Eden, the deputy Opposition leader, urged the Government today to ensure that the Atlantic Pact Standing Group in Washington covered the whole world and not only the Atlantic.

The Combined Chiefs of Staff did this in the last war, he told the House of Commons.

The Defence Minister, Mr Emanuel Shinwell, replied that the Combined Chiefs of Staff consisted of British and American representatives only, whereas the Standing Group organisation was designed to cover a larger number of countries.

It might well be that the organisation would have to be extended still further. "But for the moment we are anxious to streamline the existing organisation and make it thoroughly effective," he said.—Reuter.

ROXY

GALA PREMIERE
TO-NIGHT AT 9.45 P.M.

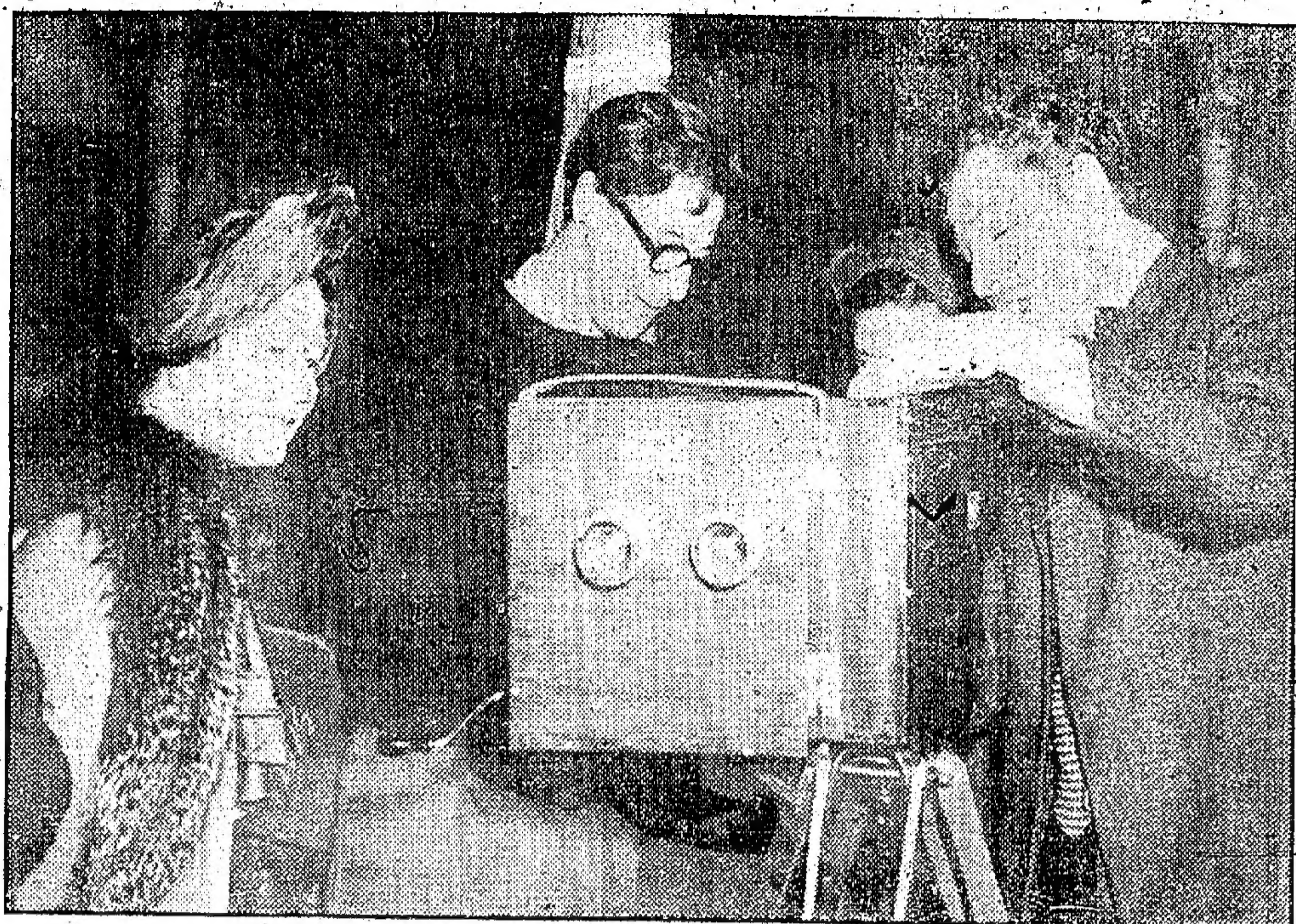


BOOK AT ONCE!

LAST 3 SHOWS TO-DAY
AT 2.15, 5.45 & 7.15 P.M.



Royal Visit To Elstree



The Queen inspecting William Friese-Greene's first cine-camera when she visited Elstree Studios to watch a Festival film, *The Magic Box*. With the Queen is John Boulting (producer), Princess Margaret and Robert Donat (who plays the part of Friese-Greene). — Central Press Photo.

Alleged American Espionage Organisation In Tientsin

San Francisco, Mar. 21.

An underground espionage organisation in Tientsin allegedly operated under the American S.S.U. had been exposed by the Public Security Bureau in that city, according to Peking Radio tonight.

Twenty-one spies of various nationalities working for the Americans had been arrested and large quantities of radio equipment and many documents discovered, the Radio said.

These 21 people—who would be tried and if guilty punished—

included:

(1) Heinrich Lipphardt, 41, described as the sales manager of the import department of Jardine Matheson & Company, Tientsin.

Lipphardt, a white Russian of German origin, was "an international spy" and during World War II had "close contacts with Japanese agents and German Nazis," the Radio alleged. He is accused of being chief of a branch American espionage organisation in Tientsin.

(2) T. Percu, a White Russian, aged 31, unemployed. He is accused of attempting to throw a bomb at Soviet diplomatic personnel, of trying to ferret out confidential information from and spying upon the activities of the Soviet Consulate, and of undermining friendship between China and the Soviet Union.

(3) Boris N. Kalatilin, 41, a stateless "professional intelligence agent." His main work was described by the Radio as obtaining information concerning the Soviet Union.

"JACKSON"

The broadcast said that the S.S.U. was a central organisation of America's espionage activities in China and a department of the former American Office of Strategic Service. Established in 1946 the S.S.U. formed an underground network in Tientsin when it withdrew in 1948 "its open espionage organisation," the broadcast said.

A secret radio station was set up by a Chinese, Ku Tsung-fan, who acted on the orders of an American spy named Jackson, the radio alleged. In November, 1948, Jackson handed both Ku and the radio set over to Yu Tsung-pin, described by the Radio as "another spy and a clerk of the accounts section of the Kailan Mining Administration, Tientsin."

Yu sent people to Harbin and Kiamusze to collect military information on the Soviet Union and North Korea, the Radio said.

HONGKONG ANGLE

"After the liberation of Tientsin these criminals sent out over 60 important messages to the American intelligence department. This department had appropriated US\$3,600 which it secretly sent through the Banque de l'Indo-Chine and the Far Eastern Fur Corporation in Tientsin for use by Yu Tsung-pin and Ku Tsung-fan," the Radio stated.

It claimed that in April, 1950, Ku received from American agents in Hongkong secret codes and working directives. "These emphasised the strengthening of investigations into China's economic construction, military power and equipment and the localities of military and political institutions," the Radio said.—Reuter.

Waterspout In Calcutta

Calcutta, Mar. 21.
Fifty students were injured when the roof of a primary school collapsed on them in a storm here yesterday. The storm came in the wake of a waterspout at the mouth of the River Indus and damaged several buildings on the waterfront. An eye-witness said that the column of water pierced the clouds. It disappeared after 15 minutes.—Reuter.

Acheson Reviews World Situation

Washington, Mar. 21.

In an appraisal of the world situation, Secretary of State Dean Acheson said he was not disheartened about the state of world affairs. But, he said, they still remain very serious and puzzling. He said firmly that in the Far East it has been proved that aggression in Korea was not successful. This was a very important development backed by world reaction and was considered a great step forward in the last year.

The present position of the United Nations in the Far East was encouraging, but this did not mean that all problems had been solved. The Western powers were stronger than they were a year ago, in both Europe and the Far East. The free world was working hard and moving forward to strengthen itself and to begin basic organisation of peace.

The Secretary of State was hopeful of the progress in bolstering Western relations with Western Germany. But he could not tell at this time whether any broader international agreements could be worked out to govern all Germany.

Relations among the American republics were better than they had been in a long time. The meeting of the Western Hemisphere Foreign Ministers beginning next week would lay the foundation for co-operative action during this very trying period.

In a summary of world affairs, Mr Acheson saw no reason to be downhearted. He saw the need to approach the problems ahead in sober fashion.

He welcomed the action taken on Monday in Paris by the six Western European signatories of the Schuman Plan for pooling Western Europe's coal and steel industries. The United States was confident that the six nations would be able to settle any outstanding issues on which agreement was necessary before the Schuman treaty could be put into actual operation.

SLAP AT PERON

The Secretary of State reaffirmed that the forced closing of the famous Buenos Aires newspaper "La Prensa" had chilled Argentine-United States relations. Asked to comment on the situation of "La Prensa," Mr Acheson replied that Assistant Secretary of State Edward Miller, Jr., had already expressed the United States view.

(Mr Miller told a news conference last week that the

closing of "La Prensa" had such an adverse impact on American public opinion that the United States Government was limited in its ability to co-operate with Argentina.)

Mr Acheson said the United States was actively considering the question of whether Greece and Turkey should be invited to join the North Atlantic Pact. However, there were no specific developments to report.

Other official sources have indicated that the United States was preparing to try to persuade her Atlantic Pact partners to admit the two countries to the anti-Communist alliance as full partners. At present they are permitted to participate as observers. Both have received United States help to rebuild their defences.—United Press.

Gascoigne To Be Replaced

London, Mar. 21.

Mr Herbert Morrison, the Foreign Secretary, told the House of Commons today that the appointment of a British representative was being considered for Japan to take the place of Sir Alvary Gascoigne, the British political representative who left in February.

The Foreign Secretary assured his questioner that, contrary to other statements, Sir Alvary Gascoigne did have farewell interviews with General Douglas MacArthur and the Japanese Prime Minister.

Asked to "bear in mind the considerable anxiety felt by British subjects who wanted to get into Japan and the fact that there was nobody of the standing of Sir Alvary Gascoigne as British representative," Mr Morrison said he understood that there were British representatives in Tokyo who were available to people who need their services.—Reuter.

Cominform Accusations Groundless

London, Mar. 21.

A non-party British peace delegation today completely rejected Cominform charges that Yugoslavia is planning aggression.

Back from a three-weeks' visit to Yugoslavia, the delegation said that it found no evidence of Western military bases, or that Marshal Tito's troops were being trained by Western experts.

The delegation, an eight-man group including Lord Boyd Orr, former Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation, was sent by the National Peace Council following an invitation from the Yugoslav Peace Committee.

The Council has no connection with the Communist-backed Peace movement. The delegates said that every charge they investigated was proved false, but they were struck by the "freedom" with which people talked to them in Yugoslavia.—Reuter.

FINNISH CABINET RESIGNS

Helsinki, Mar. 21.

The Finnish Prime Minister, M. Urho Kekkonen, today handed his Coalition Government's resignation to President Juho Paasikivi.

The President urged him to delay the Government's resignation until after Easter and he agreed to this.

Earlier today the Social Democrats had withdrawn their six Ministers from the 16-seat Coalition Cabinet because Parliament refused yesterday to pass a Government Bill postponing from Apr. 1 to Aug. 1 a 43 per cent increase in rents.

They maintained that an immediate rise in rents would help the Communists in the trades union elections next month and in the July general elections.

The Prime Minister's Agrarian Party hold seven seats in the Cabinet, the People's Party two and the Liberals one.

The People's Democracy, a merger of Communists and left-wing Socialists, held no seats.—Reuter.

Dutch Defence Measures

The Hague, Mar. 21.

The Dutch Government has placed orders for new military equipment totalling over 1,000 million guilders and will spend at least 4,500 million guilders more in the next four years, Professor J.R.M. Den Brink, Minister for Economic Affairs, announced today.

He was opening the first meeting of the new Military Production Advisory Committee, which is responsible for organising Holland's switch from purely peacetime to defence production.—Reuter.

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"DELIBERATE CONFUSION"

American Policy On Crossing Of Parallel Still Keeping An Ear Open For Peking Peace Feeler

Washington, Mar. 21.

American officials are following a policy of "deliberate confusion" concerning how far north of the 38th Parallel the United Nations forces will drive if they push on into the Northern sector of the country.

This was disclosed by an authoritative source who said it was being done to conceal from the Reds any definite information regarding American intentions.

He indicated further that no final decision could be taken until the military reaction of the Chinese Communists during the next fortnight was tested.

Meanwhile, representatives of the 13 fighting allies of the United Nations in Korea, following a meeting with Assistant Secretary of State Dean Rusk this afternoon, were left with the impression that the United States was still "improvising" to meet the situation. They believed the United States was keeping an ear open for any peace feeler from Peking but at the same time preparing to continue the battle as long as necessary.

It was learned that the meeting was taken up entirely by an American briefing on the actual military situation in Korea. There were no questions asked about the 38th Parallel and no information volunteered.

It was learned, however, that bilateral discussions between British and American representatives had proceeded to a point where there was a considerable area of agreement between them on the eventual objectives in Korea. It was indicated in highest quarters that the two countries were in general accord on the idea of letting Lieutenant-General Matthew Ridgway push steadily ahead without any general offensive until it was determined whether the Communists would talk peace. Both countries would then, it was believed, be agreeable to a cease-fire and the establishment of a 20-mile wide buffer zone in North Korea as a prelude to discussions on the unification of the country.

FULLEST AUTHORITY

American officials said General MacArthur and General Ridgway had adequate directives to enable them to continue their military operations pending any broad policy decision on Korea. This was taken to mean they had full authority to push across the Parallel wherever they deemed it advisable to protect their main forces.

But American assurances that no general offensive would be launched north of the Parallel without the fullest consultations with the 13 other nations with fighting forces in Korea, still stand, according to diplomatic informants.

However, the possibility was seen in diplomatic circles that, if the Chinese Communists were prepared to launch a strong counter-offensive from north of the parallel, the United Nations would attack in force across the line as a pure-

ly defensive manoeuvre to catch the incipient Red attack off balance.

Diplomatic quarters believed the United States intended for the time being merely to test out the Chinese Communist desire for peace. It was felt that if Peking was not ready to talk cease-fire now, Red officials probably would be if another Communist offensive dashed itself to pieces against the United Nations lines.

Any idea of penetrating clear to the Manchurian border appears to have been abandoned unless the Chinese themselves force the issue that far.

The establishment of an eventual line somewhere in the vicinity of the 38th Parallel seems more generally favoured.

ACHESON STATEMENT

Washington, Mar. 21.

Secretary of State, Dean Acheson told a news conference today that General MacArthur needed no further United Nations authority to cross the 38th Parallel into North Korea, but that the United States was consulting with its fighting allies on the subject because it was desirable to have a common view on the matter.

Mr Acheson would not say whether the United Nations forces would cross the Parallel. The problem was being considered in consultation with other United Nations members, General MacArthur and other military leaders.

The Secretary's comment made it clear that while the United States considers that General MacArthur has full authority to go clear to the Manchurian border if he wants to, the United States Government nevertheless realised the international implications of pushing into North Korea.

Replying to reporters' questions on the subject, Mr Acheson made it clear that the United States did not want to alienate any of its United Nations supporters in Korea by taking precipitate action on a large scale.

U.S. ASSURANCES

Mr Acheson's remarks came as there was growing indication in official quarters that the United States and Britain, in bilateral discussions, had reached substantial agreement that General MacArthur's forces should grind to a halt some-

where near the 38th Parallel if they can continue their advance, and give the Chinese Communists another opportunity to talk peace.

Elaborating on Mr Acheson's statement, State Department officials said General MacArthur's authority to cross the 38th Parallel was covered generally in the resolution approved on Feb. 1 by the United Nations. The resolution branded the Chinese Communists as aggressors and called upon the United Nations to continue to resist aggression in Korea. This placed no geographic restrictions on military operations by the United Nations.

Mr Acheson's reference to the need for a common point of view by the Allies on the question of the 38th Parallel brought out apprehension, in Britain in particular, that General MacArthur might undertake a major offensive designed to go far beyond the border. The American Government has assured Britain that such a major campaign would not be undertaken without previous consultations with all nations whose troops are fighting in Korea.—United Press.

Ambassador's Chauffeur Abducted

Prague, Mar. 21.

It was learned today that U.S. Ambassador Ellis Briggs' personal chauffeur disappeared on February 20 and the United States has asked the Czechoslovak government for information on his whereabouts.

Embassy sources said a Note was sent to the Czech Foreign Minister on March 6th, asking the Ministry's aid in finding Mirum Kadlec, 20, who vanished 10 days after the police confiscated his driver's licence on charge of careless and reckless driving while drunk.

Kadlec protested that he was not a careless driver and did not drink, but the police said they were better judges of driving and drunkenness.

He returned to the Embassy to do odd jobs, but on February 20, he disappeared and has not been seen since. The Czech Foreign Ministry has not yet answered the American note.—United Press.

Churchill Asked To Speak In America

London, Mar. 21.

Mr Winston Churchill has been invited to address a convention of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia in May.

The invitation was delivered to the Conservative Party leader today by Mr Harold Stassen, United States Republican Party leader and President of the University.

Mr Churchill is considering the invitation, Mr Stassen told Reuter today.

CHUNCHON IN RUINS

(Continued from Page 1)

dropped napalm bombs and strafed the way ahead of them.

From mountain heights which looked down on the valley of the Pukhan River, tank crews could see no sign of life in the villages and farming settlements which fringed the city.

But as the tanks rolled down the narrow road into the flat country below, white-dyed figures emerged from mud huts and ran across paddy fields towards the tanks to cheer and wave, although flame and smoke rose from the burning dwellings around them.

At one blazing house could be seen the tragic sight of a white-haired woman and a small child desperately trying to save a few household possessions from underneath the flaming thatch.

But there were no Communist troops—except about a dozen Chinese Communists and North Koreans who had surrendered with obvious gladness to the United Nations troops following the tanks.—Reuter.

AIR STRIKES

Tokyo, Mar. 22.

Allied warplanes killed or wounded at least 700 Communist troops on Wednesday in close support strikes ahead of the United Nations forces rolling up to the 38th Parallel, according to Air Force and Navy claims this morning.

They also raked Communist railroad and highway traffic, as the Reds sought desperately to rush supplies and reinforcements from Manchuria to the battlefield.

Fighters and light bombers of the Fifth Air Force flew 732 sorties up to 6 p.m. on Wednesday and claimed that 500 troops were killed or wounded, according to a Fifth Air Force summary.

Navy carrier planes reported another 200 Reds probably killed in one strike and heavy Red casualties in several others.—United Press.

BRITAIN TO CLOSE SIX CONSULAR DISTRICTS

London, Mar. 21.

Britain is to close six of her consulates in China, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Herbert Morrison, told the House of Commons today.

The decision was taken because of the reduced number of British subjects and interests in the consular districts concerned, he said.

The closed posts are at Chungking, Kunming, Hankow, Nanking, Tsingtao and Amoy.

Mr Morrison said that there had also been serious administrative difficulties in maintaining and staffing these posts. The protection of British interests in these districts would be transferred to other posts.

There was no intention of closing consular posts in districts with substantial British interests, he added.

Today's decision leaves only four British consulates in China, those in Shanghai, Tientsin, Canton and Peking, which is also the seat of the Embassy.

Consulates in Harbin, Dairen, Mukden, Swatow, Foochow and Tihwa have already been closed. The four remaining consulates will now divide between them the responsibility for the care of British interests in the whole of China.

A Foreign Office spokesman said today that there were now fewer than 2,000 British subjects in China, of whom some 700 are in Shanghai.—Reuter.

GANGSTER CHIEFTAIN DEFIANT

New York, Mar. 21.

Frank Costello, alleged boss of a nationwide crime syndicate with tentacles reaching into big-time politics, defied the Senate Crime Investigating Committee today for the eighth time. The sullen mastermind of the underworld, testifying only because he faced a possible sentence of three years in prison under a three-count citation for contempt of Congress, today refused flatly to state the amounts of his total indebtedness and of his "net worth."

He was compelled to answer, however, to owning approximately \$150,000 in cash and real estate, and stocks worth approximately \$100,000. He also admitted he had a hand in the gambling at Saratoga Springs, the spa near Albany, capital of New York.

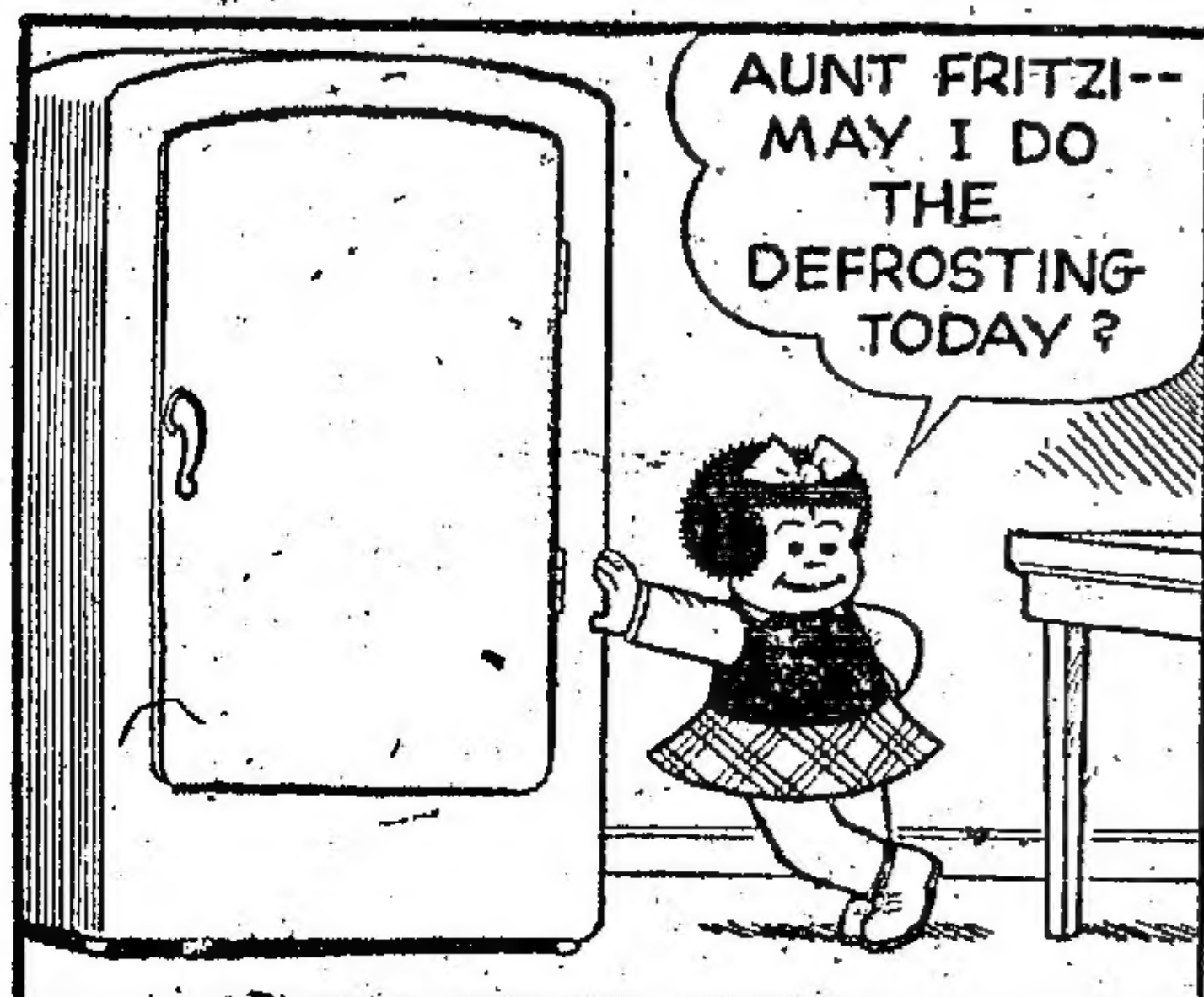
Committee witnesses testified that the gambling there took place with police connivance and the Committee renewed its invitation to the Governor of New York, Mr Thomas Dewey, to tell his official position regarding conditions in Saratoga.

Costello said he once provided the bank roll for one of Saratoga's swank gambling dives on a 50-50 deal.—United Press.

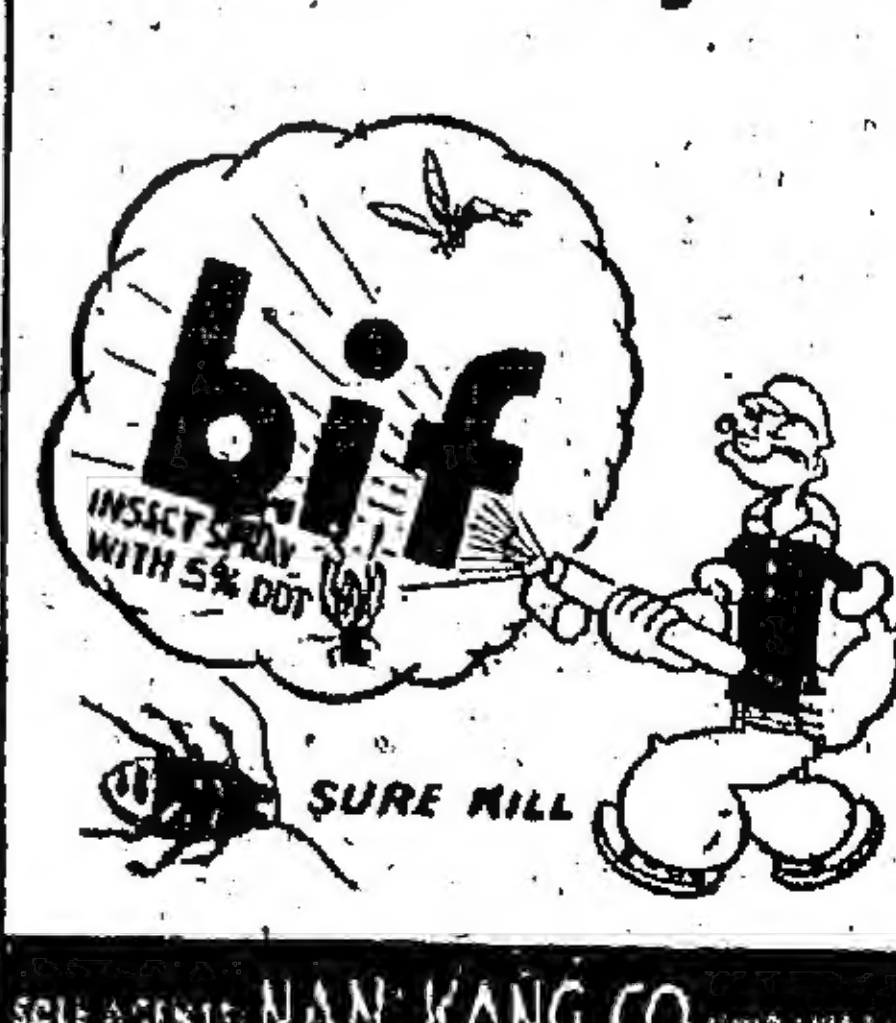
NANCY

Right Church, Wrong Pew

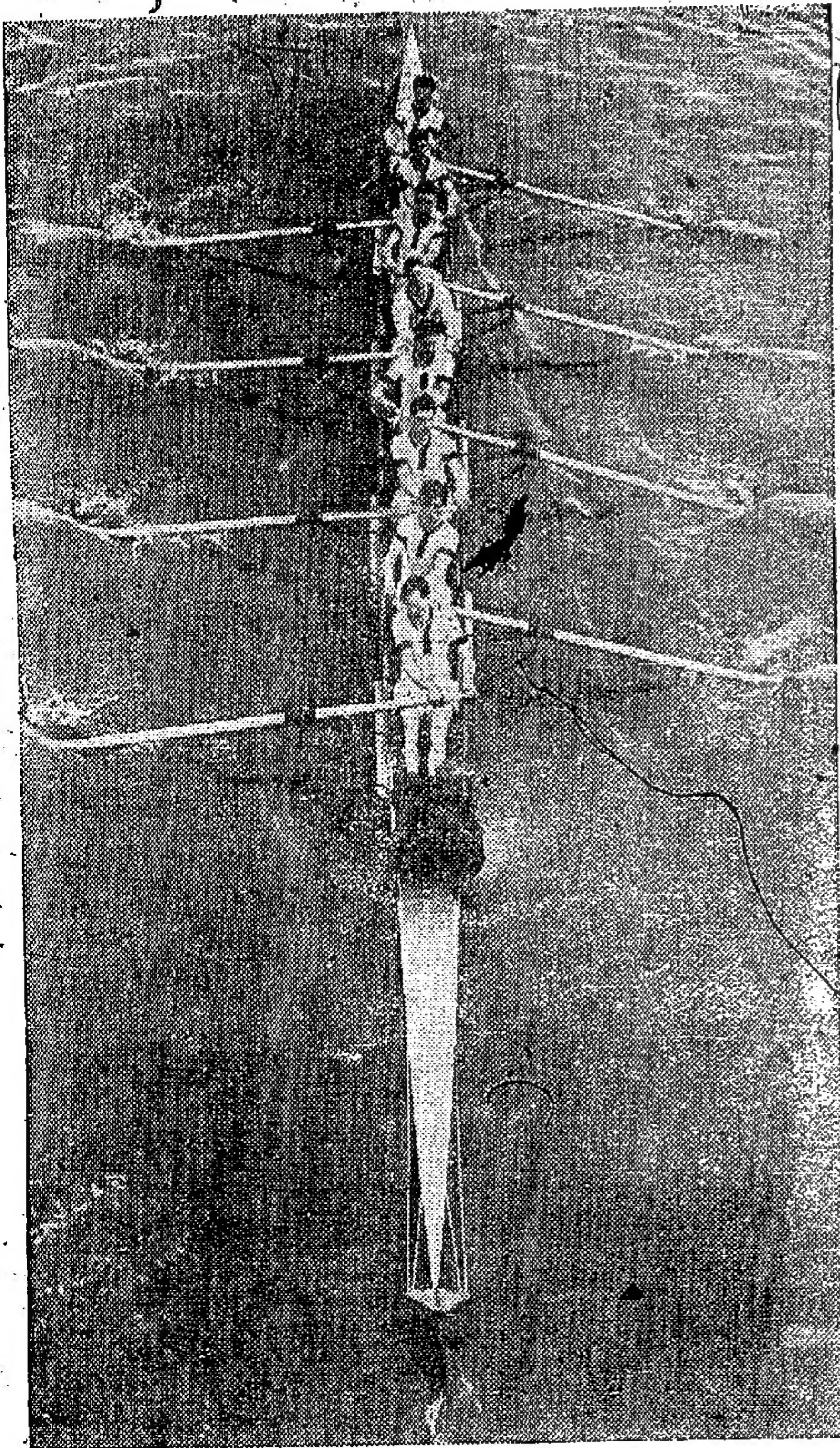
By Ernie Bushmiller



When there's bif I needn't use my fist!



ALL SET FOR SATURDAY



The Oxford University varsity crew takes a trial spin on the Thames River near London under the guidance of coxswain G. Carver, formerly of Yale University. One of the oars is manned by an Australian. Oxford meets Cambridge in the annual traditional race on Saturday.

Down, Down Go The Dog Track Takings

By PETER DACRE

Is greyhound racing on the way out? Since 1946 the market value of the shares of ten leading companies has dropped nearly £20,000,000.

Shares, once worth more than a pound, are now worth only two and three shillings. Two big courses have closed recently, and about 30 smaller ones have either shut their tracks or their totalisators.

In 1946, when an estimated £450 million went on greyhound gambling, £199 million was staked on the tote.

Greyhound racing had never known such days since it had started fabulously 20 years earlier, with a dog called Mistley having round Manchester Belle Vue track in 26 seconds.

BIG REWARDS

Companies which were entitled to extract six per cent. of the tote takings reaped lush rewards. The biggest group, the Greyhound Racing Association Trust, made more than £2,000,000 gross profit and paid a 115 per cent. dividend.

One company paid 500 per cent. while others were around the 200 mark.

The managing director of one track collected £430,000 in one year.

Investors raced to get on the track to riches. Market value of greyhound shares soared. Shares that could have been bought for three-halfpence each early in the war were worth 10s. Shilling shares changed hands at 36s.

One man who bought 1,019 GRA shares for £50 in 1926 sold them for £40,000.

Fifteen leading companies, representing a capital investment of just over £3,000,000, had a paper value of some £18,000,000.

But, in 1948, the bubble burst, when a ten per cent. tax on tote takings was levied. Ever since, the dogs have been declining. Last year tote gam-

bling dropped £70 million. Attendances slumped.

PROFITS DROP

Last year, as an example, Wembley Stadium made a gross profit of £94,367, compared with more than £193,000 the previous year.

Frank Gentle, head of the GRA, now warns that money to pay Preference dividends may have to come from past profits.

Who has lost the big money? Some of the kings of dog racing during its boom days are now gone. W. J. ("Bill") Cearns, a builder, who left school at 14 for an 8s-a-week job and directed Wembley and Southend stadiums, is dead.

So are the former Lord Motistone, who was chairman of Wembley Stadium, and Lord Esme Gordon-Lennox, of the huge Totalisators, Ltd.

One man who has spanned the years is Brigadier-General A. C. Critchley, one of the founders of the business and still a big shareholder in the GRA Trust.

THE WEATHER?

Another whose fortune is bound up in dogs is Frank Gentle, whose father, Sir William, agreed to Britain's first dog track being built on waste land beside an amusement park he was running.

As head of Wembley Stadium, Sir Arthur Elvin, who began by running a kiosk at Wembley Exhibition, has a big stake in dogs.

Men in the sport deny that greyhound racing is going out.

NOTHING SHORT OF DISASTER WILL PREVENT ANOTHER LOUIS-CHARLES FIGHT

Says CORNELIUS RYAN

New York.

Joe Louis has been unimpressive, in his comeback since his decisive defeat by Ezzard Charles last September, but nothing short of disaster will prevent a re-match of Louis and Charles.

Should the match fail to come off, "disaster" would be just the word as far as the fighters and the promoters are concerned. Both financial and aesthetic considerations are involved.

Firstly, the fight figures to be the only really rich-money heavyweight match available, no matter what Lee Savold's manager says.

Present tentative plans are for an indoor Louis-Charles bout at Chicago in April, and the gate receipts may be as much as \$200,000, plus another big chunk for radio and television rights.

There has been some rumour of a quarter-million dollar offer already for the latter. With that kind of money available, the fight will be held.

MATTER OF PRIDE

And both fighters want the match for the same reason—pride. Louis thinks he can whip Charles and avenge his defeat. Charles is sure he can

lick Joe again, and this time he wants to knock Louis out and gain full public acceptance as Champion.

Charles probably could have floored Louis in the 14th round in September, but spared his one-time idol. Now he needs the knockout to gain acclaim as a slugging champ.

Louis deserves the title chance, as long as he wants to remain an active boxer. Most experts admit that Joe is far past his peak, but he still is generally rated as the second-best heavyweight in action. He certainly ranks above

Joe Walcott, Rex Layne, Jack Gardner, Joe Maxim, Lee Oma and Roland LaStarra.

NOT TOO ANXIOUS

Savold never has met Louis, and neither man seems anxious for a match now. Louis has been meeting carefully selected "pigeons" in his comeback, men like slow Cesar Brion, glass-chinned Omelio Agramonte and unknown Andy Walker, but then it must be noted that Walcott's last fight before his March 7 title fight with Charles was a bad licking at the hands of Layne, and Savold hasn't fought at all, nor has Maxim.

It seems sure that there will be another Louis-Charles fight, and with the same result—Charles the victor. This time Charles probably will get the KO triumph he didn't want in the first bout.—United Press.

Opposition Is Running Away From Turpin

Says GEORGE WHITING

The middleweights and the cruiserweights of the world are running away from Randolph Turpin—and who shall blame them?

Finding opponents for Britain's rumbustious young middleweight champion has never been easy, even when "Licker" was a fledgling pro just out of the Navy.

Now, after his 48 sec. destruction of the luckless Luc van Dam at Harringay recently, the matching of Randolph has become boxing's biggest headache.

Proudly, promoter Jack Solomons has told the world that Turpin will be fighting at the Gardner-Weidin show at Earls Court on March 27—eight days after his return clash at Leicester with Frenchman Jean Stock.

Whom will he fight? Solomons, earnestly seeking a box office answer to that question, has his scouts flourishing cheque books half way round the world—but their preliminary reports are not encouraging. Randolph seems as popular as the plague with the fighting men of America and Europe.

ONE VOLUNTEER

accommodate Turpin on the 12-stone mark has come from America's Mel Brown, who will be back in England within the next few days—but whose claims to this kind of billing would have looked a good deal brighter had he not been outpointed last year by South Africa's George Angelo.

Which of the world's middleweights could be expected to give Turpin any kind of test before he gets down to his Empire title argument with Australia's Dave Sands this summer?

Obviously, the pick of the bunch would have been Ameri-

They claim that last year's drop in attendances was due largely to the weather.

They insist there is nothing wrong with dog racing that the cutting of the ten per cent. tote tax will not put right.

Frank Gentle calls the tax "discriminatory and unfair." Customers don't like to lose 16 per cent. of their money.

But one fact is certain: the big money in dog racing is gone.

—(London Express Service)

MISS BEGUM SCORES A TWINKLING 26

Bombay, Mar. 21.

Leading Indian film stars, playing a one-day charity cricket match, drew a record crowd of 60,000 spectators to the Brabourne Stadium here today.

Led by the "Grand Old Man" of the Indian screen, Motilal, and the young actor-producer, Raj Kapoor, the teams included 13 women. Pre-lunch play was high-lighted by Motilal taking four wickets for six runs in 3.1 overs.

Raj Kapoor's side, for whom Miss Begum scored a twinkling 26 runs, were all out for 125 runs by lunch.—Reuter.

Dorfman Beats Von Cramm

Alexandria, Egypt, Mar. 21.

Irvin Dorfman of the United States entered the semi-final of the Alexandria International Lawn Tennis Championships here today, when he beat the titleholder, Gottfried von Cramm of Germany, 6-4, 6-0, 6-1.

Miss Louise Brough (United States) entered the final of the Women's Singles, beating her compatriot, Miss Dorothy Head, 2-6, 6-1, 7-5.

In the other quarter-finals of the Men's Singles, Jaroslav Drobny (Egypt) beat Fred Kovaleski (U.S.) 6-2, 5-7, 6-4, 7-5; Dick Savitt (U.S.) beat Adly Shafei (Egypt) 6-4, 7-5, 6-0.

In another quarter-final of the Men's Singles, the Wimbledon Champion, Budge Patty (U.S.) beat Gianni Cucelli (Italy) 6-3, 6-3, 6-4. —United Press.

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

Empire Preference Reduction Plans To Be Attacked

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Mar. 21.

An attack designed to counter the proposals for reducing Empire Preference is to be launched in Torquay, current home of the trade and tariff talks, on March 30.

Organisers are the Empire Industries Association and the British Empire League, who last year assisted the colonial sugar producers in their attempts to secure new contracts with the British Government.

A mass rally has been planned and a resolution denouncing any attempt to reduce Empire Preferences as an attack on the Empire economy will be put forward by Lord Balfour of Inchyre. He is the newly-elected Chairman of the Empire Industries Association.

Mr Alan Lennox-Boyd, Chairman of the Conservative Party Imperial Affairs Committee, is another who will be speaking on behalf of Empire producers.

"I believe the best way of progress for all of us lies along the lines of Empire development," he told me today.

"We decided the best place to express this point of view was Torquay, where trade and tariff conferences have been taking place."

The Empire Industries Association are hopeful that the delegates to the Torquay talks will attend their rally and listen to their call for strong Empire ties.

COTTON MARKETS STAGNANT

New York, Mar. 21.

Cotton futures trading today ebbed to the slowest pace since the market reopened 12 days ago. Pending the expiration of trading in current March delivery at noon on Friday, traders said little more than routine interest to the crop news and other developments.

All old crop months held at 5.39, the ceiling price. New crop months backed and filled within a range of 15 points, responding to small orders either way.

Reports of price resistance in the cotton goods market encouraged some scattered selling by local professionals at the start but they moved back to cover again toward the close. Some technicians felt the setback to later positions due more to the lack of buying interest than any concentrated sellings.

The Census Bureau reported that domestic consumption of raw cotton during Feb. 19-23 tallied 894,602 bales. The trade had expected a figure around 9,000 bales. The market opened unchanged to 11 points lower and closed 8 to 10 points lower. Prices closed today as follows:

Spot	46.06 nominal
March	45.39 bid
May	45.37 bid
July	45.39 bid
October	41.78
December	41.04-31.05
March (1952)	40.90
May	40.74 nominal
July	40.39

—United Press.

NEW ORLEANS MARKET

Closing rate March 21.

Spot	44.91
March	45.39 bid
May	45.37 bid
July	41.74
October	41.01
December	40.83
March (1952)	40.65
May	40.39
July	40.28 bid

—United Press.

Peking Suggests Barter Plan

Tokyo, Mar. 21.

The Jiji Press said that trade circles here had received a cable suggesting that Communist China wants to barter 40,000 to 50,000 tons of Manchurian coking coal for Japanese galvanised sheet iron and other goods. Other items which Red China wants include plate steel, wire materials and pipes. Jiji Press said.

China is said to be willing to offer iron ore, soya beans and salt if the coal barter is successful.

Grain Prices In Chicago

Chicago, Mar. 21.

Prices of grain futures closed here today as follows:

Wheat—price per bushel	
Spot	2.44
March	2.41
May	2.44 1/2-2.45
July	2.41 1/2-2.42
September	2.41 1/2-2.42
December	2.45 1/2
Corn	
Spot	1.80 1/2
March	1.73 1/2
May	1.77 1/2-3/4
July	1.78 1/2-3/4
September	1.76 1/2
December	1.66 1/2
Oats	
Spot	1.83-1.82 1/2
March	1.82 1/2
May	97 1/2 bid
July	94 1/2-3/4
New York flour—per 200 lb. sack	
13.10—United Press.	

TIN MARKET STEADINESS

London, Mar. 21.

The tin market was fairly steady at the morning session. Turnover was 130 tons, including 15 tons for spot.

Prices closed today at the end of the official morning session as follows:

Spot tin, buyers	1,305
Spot tin, sellers	1,310
Business done at	1,305-1,300
Three-months tin, buyers	1,190
Three-months tin, sellers	1,195
Business done at	1,200-1,190
Settlement	1,305

—United Press.

ABLE SEAMAN



"WE WANT BETTER MEN AT THE TOP"

NOW, after travelling right across the American continent and back to Washington, I ask myself: is there no common denominator at all in the current attitudes and feelings of the Cincinnati Manufacturer and the New York taxi-driver, the Californian aircraft worker and the Iowan farmer?

I think there is. Though they may disagree fiercely on the purely political level, to a remarkable extent they share a general mood.

To begin with, let it be stressed that all these people want peace. I have journeyed 7,000 miles inside this country and I have found no support anywhere for a preventive war against the Soviet Union. Nor is there any significant public demand for a total show down with China. Sooner than that, most Americans would probably choose to pull out of the Far East, altogether.

Though their feelings might change if Mao invaded Indo-China, the notion that at this moment they are spoiling to throw atom bombs and great armies at the Chinese mainland is moonshine.

SENSE OF GUILT

On the surface Americans may look to us brash and impatient. In reality they are deeply self-critical. They are burdened, for no good reason, with a sense of guilt above their high standard of living and their country's

Pepper Prices Harden

New York, Mar. 21.

Domestic pepper prices hardened in company with higher Indian cables. The firmness in the primary market was associated with uncertainty in the Indonesian political situation.

Local dealers quoted spot supplies at between \$1.57-1.58. Nearby steamers were also quoted at between 1.57-1.58 and later steamers on parity with March shipment or 1.56 a pound. April shipment were indicated at 1.55 and May at between 1.53-1.54 a pound, on an ex-dock basis.—United Press.

JEST A MINUTE!



"Now, here's a jolly little item about the cost of living!"

By Douglas Clark

immense natural wealth. Feeling they have too much, they are irked with a conscience to get out into the world and help other nations less fortunately placed.

Unless we realise that this altruism colours—and indeed dominates—all his thinking about the United Nations, we shall not understand the attitude of the ordinary American to the Korean War.

When the decision to intervene in Korea was taken last summer, he was enthusiastic; and his enthusiasm had nothing to do with self-interest. It was generous and idealistic.

NO WISH FOR WAR

He has no wish to extend the war beyond Korea, but he is deeply concerned that the purpose of this collective police action should not be obscured or debased. Recently he could see no moral justification for withholding the label of aggressor from Communist China. What kind of international organisation is this, he was asking, that is ready to condemn a little aggressor but shies away from condemning big one?

America's current state of mind about the Far East crisis is, therefore, one of extreme bewilderment. Americans doubt the spirit and motives of their allies in Korea; and this has led them to question their reliability elsewhere. Their confusion is exacerbated by the newspapers, which guard the right of free expression so jealously that many of them print side by side on the same page, the commentaries of columnists whose views on international issues are totally irreconcilable.

Where do we go from here? is today's leading question all over the United States. For millions the question would be satisfactorily answered if firm guidance were forthcoming from Washington. But they do not think they are getting it. And now, I think, we are close to the root of America's present mood.

During Mr. Attlee's visit to the U.S.A. a widely published picture showed the President and the Prime Minister smiling together in the White House. A story popular at the time told of the puzzled American citizen who asked a friend, "Why do you suppose they're smiling?" "That's easy," said the other man. "Those two little fellows are trying to do the jobs of Roosevelt and Churchill. Isn't that something to laugh about?"

BEAT MACHINES

Here I must put in a cautionary note about the attitude of American of political leadership. Their instinctive opinion of politicians, irrespective of party, can be summed up in a sentence; they are against them. This was brought out by the recent mayoral election in New York. Mayor Impellitteri, whom I interviewed at City Hall, stood as an independent against two powerful party machines and won by a huge majority.

He interpreted the result for me concisely. "When big political interests tell the American people how to vote," he said, "they are liable to do the other

things. They don't like being pushed around."

Yet in spite of this distaste for dictation, it is clear to me that the most fundamental craving of Americans today is for strong, shrewd leadership at the highest level. Five years after his death, Franklin Roosevelt is still missed—even, in an odd sense, by his worst enemies. Wherever I have travelled, I have met merciless criticism of President Truman. Though in Washington Mr. Acheson shares the brickbats, up and down the country the ribaldry and abuse are centred squarely on the President who is deemed by unshakable Democrats as well as Republicans, to be of quite inadequate calibre for his tremendous position.

CHURCHILL

Lacking leadership, moreover, a growing public is looking across the Atlantic for the statesmanship which could spark their enthusiasm. "When will Mr Churchill return to office?" is a question I have been asked everywhere. "No single event could do more to unite the democracies," a West Coast newspaper editor, a Democrat, assured me. "He would soon set all our policies in order," said a Republican business man in Chicago.

A well-known political columnist in Washington summed up this faith in Mr Churchill perhaps better than anyone else. "If we cannot produce another Great White Father over here," he told me, "we feel your Benevolent Uncle would make a wonderful substitute."

For my part, I find it remarkable that America's self-depreciation has gone so far. I have met and talked with Mr Truman and will report my impressions in my next article. He may not be a leader of Roosevelt's stature, but the international record of the United States since 1945 is—to say the least—hardly suggestive of drift, or lack of vision, or small-town politics.

STANDARD BRIDGE

by M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: South.

Game all.

N.
K J 5
9 6 5
A K 6 2
Q 6 4

W.
8 2
4 3
Q J 10 7 5
A 10 7 3

E.
A 4
A Q 7
9 8 4 3
J 9 5 2

North's first response was bad and his subsequent bidding worse. South bid One Spade and North's Two No-Trumps was quite uncalled for on a gappy hand with two suits unguarded. South then bid Three Hearts, but North selfishly called Three No-Trumps instead of Three Spades. South's next rebid, Four Hearts, merely showed a desire for a game in one of the majors. North, however, still had a shot in his locker and produced a cue bid of Five Diamonds!

South could only return to Five Hearts, and at long last, was put back to Five Spades. But East doubled, and North's Diamond call induced West to lead ♠ A. South would have made his contract after the normal lead of ♠ Q. North's first response should be Two Diamonds.

London Express Service.

By Holt

FRESH BID TO SETTLE KASHMIR

New Resolution In Security Council By Sir Gladwyn Jebb

India Still In The Mood To Reject Arbitration

Lake Success, Mar. 21.

Britain and the United States today tabled a new version of their Kashmir resolution in an effort to settle the three-year-old dispute, but Indian sources indicated immediately that they would reject it as they did the original draft.

U.S. LABOUR LEADERS IN ARMS

Washington, Mar. 22.

Labour union leaders today denounced the Government's price controls as a fraud and demanded top policy posts for labour in the defence mobilisation programme.

They urged the "plain people" to back their campaign to get the programme out of the hands of "Wall Street," where they said it had been lodged.

Labour's criticism of mobilisation and control policies was voiced at a mass meeting of the American Federation of Labour, Congress of Industrial Organisation and Rail Union officials. The AFL president, William Green, and the Secretary-Treasurer, George Meany, prefaced their speeches with appeals for labour unity.

They got no reaction from the CIO president, Philip Murray, and the CIO secretary, but Walter Reuther, president of the CIO United Auto Workers, said the call was "significant" because it might unite the labour movement.

Murray and Green said all workers should be concerned with labour's grievances against mobilisation officials. — United Press.

Sir Gladwyn Jebb took the floor to introduce the amended version. Sir Gladwyn told the Security Council that the speeches made by India and Pakistan made it clear that the two parties agreed on the principle of a free, impartial plebiscite.

"Their agreement... completely overshadows the significance of their disagreement on points of detail... The picture which their statements built in my mind was one of a clear objective which both parties are equally anxious to reach and of certain obstacles in the path leading to this objective, the best way of surmounting which is still in dispute between them."

"We must do our utmost to concentrate the attention of the parties on the objective and persuade them of the futility of allowing these obstacles to prevent them from attaining it."

Sir Gladwyn declared that the only way to solve these differences—which centre on interpretation of the resolutions of the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan, on the withdrawal of troops of the two nations from Kashmir and on forms of supervising the plebiscite—was arbitration.

THE CRUX

But he informed the Council that India had rejected all proposals for arbitration of the differences which were made during recent attempts at

mediation by Senhor Joao Carlos Muniz of Brazil, although Pakistan had accepted them.

Sir Gladwyn said the point which emerged from the consultations conducted by Senhor Muniz was that "the government of India were unable to accept arbitration in any form as a way resolving disagreements regarding interpretation and the application of the two United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan resolutions."

"I believe, on the other hand, that the government of Pakistan... were completely ready to accept any arbitration which the Council thought desirable to resolve these disagreements... That, I think, is the crux of this matter."

Sir Gladwyn said that after "anxious thought" and careful study, the British and American delegations came to the conclusion that arbitration could not act to the detriment of India, threaten its security or jeopardise its rights and responsibilities.

TO BE PUT TO VOTE

When Sir Benegal Rau of India objected to arbitration, he told Senhor Muniz he was doing it "because he felt that arbitration would cause all these things. It is because of the resolution's insistence on arbitration that India is expected to reject the new resolution (an Indian spokesman said this would undoubtedly happen) but the Anglo-American spokesman indicated that the sponsors would seek to have the resolution voted on by the Council, notwithstanding Indian opposition, because it felt it was the only way to solve the dispute.

Concerning the question of the Constituent Assembly which the pro-Indian Kashmiri government at Srinagar is planning to convene, Sir Gladwyn said he was not satisfied with the references Sir Benegal Rau had made that Pakistan had nothing to fear in that respect.

Sir Gladwyn appealed to Sir Benegal to reaffirm "quite explicitly and categorically that India intends to adhere to the undertaking to settle the future accession of Jammu and Kashmir by a free, impartial plebiscite conducted under the auspices of the United Nations."

The United States representative, Mr Ernest Gross, following Sir Gladwyn on the floor, told the Council that the revised resolution took into account objections made by both parties and declared it was the "irreducible minimum in this case if the Council is to provide machinery which will aid the parties to carry out their commitments as members of the United Nations to settle their disputes by peaceful means". — United Press.

resentment expressed over the fact that restrictions were placed on the passage of British oil tankers through the Suez Canal although part of the debt is to be repaid in oil. — United Press.

Egypt To Be Left In No Doubt Of British Opinions

London, Mar. 21.

The Foreign Secretary, Mr Herbert Morrison, is to consider sending the Egyptian Government a precis of yesterday's House of Commons debate on the new Anglo-Egyptian financial agreement.

Mr Anthony Eden, the deputy Opposition leader, suggested in the House of Commons today that he should do this and "draw the Egyptian Government's attention to the fact that the volume of the speeches against the proposals as they now stand bore no relation to the actual voting."

Mr Morrison replied: "I appreciate the point and I will consider your suggestion."

The Government motion—a formal one for the adjournment of the House of Commons—on which the debate took place yesterday, was carried by only three votes—294 to 291.

Apart from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Hugh Gaitskell, most of the speakers, Conservative, Liberal and Labour, criticised the agreement.

The Foreign Secretary, Mr Herbert Morrison, also told the House of Commons today that Britain was protesting to Egypt against certain restrictive measures now being applied to British ships through the Suez Canal.

"We heartily deplore this situation," Mr Morrison said.

Mr Morrison said that British ships passing through the Canal from south to north were submitted to a Customs inspection to ascertain whether they were carrying items on the Egyptian contraband list destined for Israeli ports.

This was in addition to the usual narcotics and health control by the Egyptian authorities. — Reuters.

TO GO AHEAD

London, Mar. 21.

Official quarters said today that Britain would go ahead with its agreement with Egypt to repay a debt of £150,000,000 despite opposition shown in the Commons debate yesterday.

They said the government would "keep in mind" criticisms of the financial agreement. The hope was expressed that Egypt would note the



In clover with her new swimsuit is model Ann West, 18, who wears a four-leaf costume at a Parade of 1951 swimsuits in London.

Communist Strikes Paralysing France

Paris, Mar. 21.

Communist-led strikes threaten to paralyse the nation's railways and other vital utilities tonight and have plunged Premier Henri Queuille's faltering coalition government into a major wage-price crisis.

Railroad walkouts spread from the capital to key provincial centres. In many places regional service was almost at a standstill, while long-distance trains were running from minutes to hours late.

The Paris police ousted strike pickets from three gas plants and sent draft orders to hundreds of key workers in an attempt to raise pressure, which was so low that it was a major operation to boil water. Other gas workers walked out in Le Mans, Dijon and Lyons.

The Communist-led General Confederation of Labour called a 24-hour strike of all building trade workers. Water service workers in Paris were out in a "warning" strike. There were walkouts among delivery truck drivers and other walkouts were threatened, but the most serious

situation was in the railways, where strike spread to many provincial towns and threatened to spread even further after the non-Communist unions failed to get a firm promise from M. Queuille this afternoon on their wage demands. — United Press.

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Mr Acheson Hedges

Washington, Mar. 21.

The U.S. Secretary of State, Mr Dean Acheson, said today that the question of a security arrangement in the Pacific was still under consideration.

He declined to make any comments at his weekly Press conference on the prospects of concluding a Pacific Treaty.

He told a questioner that there was nothing he could add to the remarks already made on the subject by Mr John Foster Dulles.

Mr Acheson said that the subject of a Pacific security arrangement had been discussed with other countries and was still under consideration. — Reuters.